GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4085
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2016
Vacant Berths in Trains
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspite of the vacant berths in various train, the same are not made available to the passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the information about vacant berths is proposed to be displayed on trains and at platforms;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether reservations of berths/seats is closed much before the departure of the train particularly in Jan Shatabdi Express in South East Central Railways due to which there has been shortfall in the revenue; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Railways to increase the revenue and improve the passenger amenities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4085 BY SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 10.08.2016 REGARDING VACANT BERTHS IN TRAINS.

(a) & (b): The vacant berths available in the train are allotted by onboard ticket checking staff to Reservation Against Cancellation (RAC)/waiting list passengers as per prescribed guidelines.

(c) & (d): The information regarding vacant berths is provided on the Railways' website as well as website of Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) at the internet and it can also be checked at computerised Passenger Reservation System(PRS) counters till preparation of second reservation chart. The information regarding vacant berths is also displayed in the reservation charts pasted at the platform as well as on the coaches.

(e) & (f): After streamlining of reservation system in November 2015, vacant berths available in the train can be booked even after preparation of first reservation chart up to preparation of second reservation chart from any computerised PRS counters of Indian Railways or through internet. The second reservation chart is generally prepared any time from 30 minutes to 5 minutes before the scheduled departure of train and hence, there cannot be loss of revenue on account of closure of booking of reserved accommodation much before departure of train.

However, the utilisation of reservation quota of trains is monitored on regular basis and suitable adjustments are made wherever required. Further, waiting list of trains is also monitored on regular basis and with a view to meet the demand, load of trains is augmented, frequency of trains increased, special trains are run or new trains are introduced subject to operational feasibility. Taking such measures, or improving passenger amenities is a continuous and ongoing process.

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